ESRA
E-Survey of Road users' Attitudes
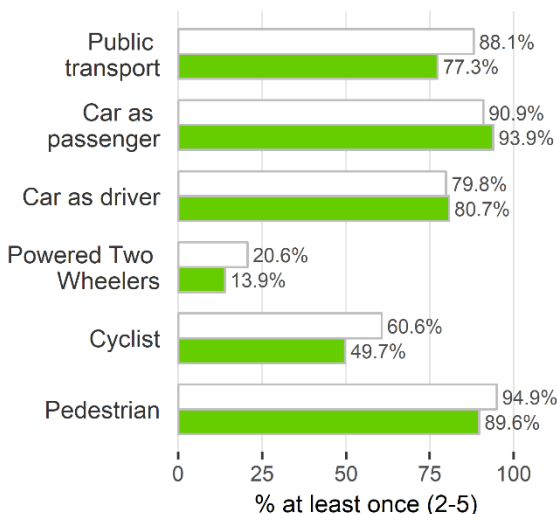
Country fact sheet Canada

ESRA2 results

ESRA (E-Survey of Road Users' Attitudes) is a joint initiative of road safety institutes, research centres, public services, and private sponsors, from all over the world. The aim is to collect and analyse comparable data on road safety performance, in particular road safety culture and behaviour of road users. The ESRA data are used as a basis for a large set of road safety indicators. These provide scientific evidence for policy making at national and international levels. Vias institute in Brussels (Belgium) initiated and coordinates ESRA, in cooperation with eleven core group partners (BASt, BFU, CTL, IATSS, IFSTTAR, ITS, KFV, NTUA, PRP, SWOV, TIRF). At the heart of ESRA is a jointly developed questionnaire survey, which is translated into national language versions[1]. The themes covered include: self-declared behaviour, attitudes and opinions on unsafe traffic behaviour, enforcement experiences and support for policy measures. The survey addresses different road safety topics (e.g. driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs and medicines, speeding, distraction) and targets car occupants, motorcycle and moped drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

This country fact sheet contains key results of the second edition of the ESRA survey, which was conducted simultaneously in 32 countries in 2018. In total this online panel survey collected data from more than 35 000 road users (980 in Canada). An overview of the initiative and more results are available on **www.esranet.eu**. The following figures show a core set of variables in which Canada (**green**) is compared with the European ESRA2 mean[2] (white).
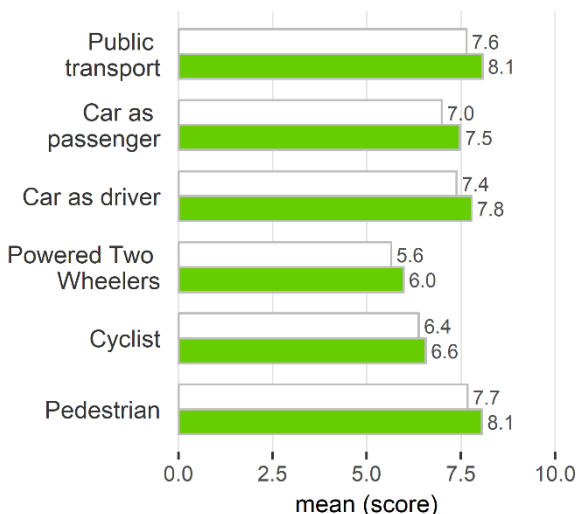
Mode of transportation

During the past 12 months, how often did you use the following transport modes (5-point scale from 1=never to 5=at least 4 days week)

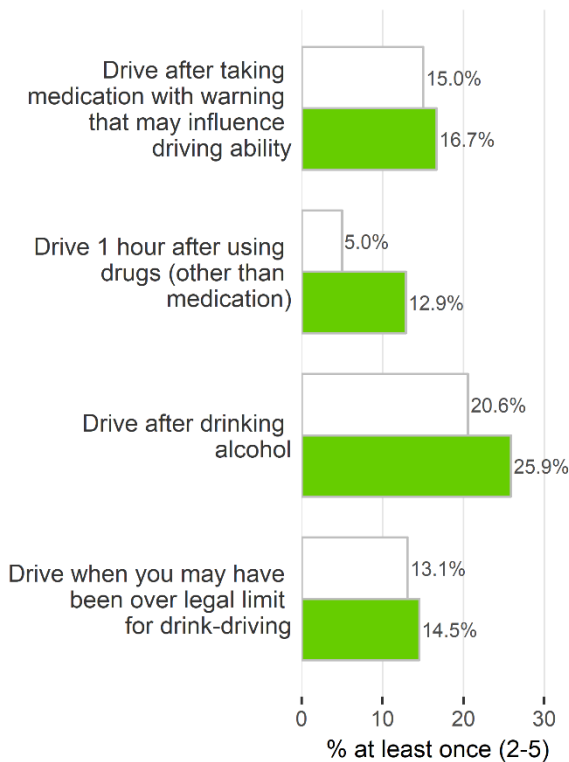| Mode	% at least once (2-5)
Public transport	88.1% / 77.3%
Car as passenger	90.9% / 93.9%
Car as driver	79.8% / 80.7%
Powered Two Wheelers	20.6% / 13.9%
Cyclist	60.6% / 49.7%
Pedestrian	94.9% / 89.6%

Safety feeling

How safe or unsafe do you feel when using the following transport modes (11-point scale from 0=very unsafe to 10=very safe)

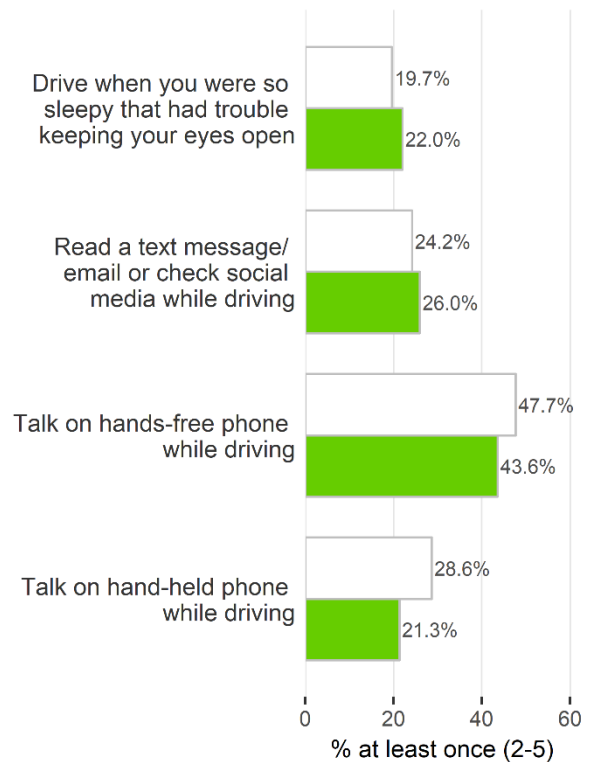| Mode	mean (score)
Public transport	7.6 / 8.1
Car as passenger	7.0 / 7.5
Car as driver	7.4 / 7.8
Powered Two Wheelers	5.6 / 6.0
Cyclist	6.4 / 6.6
Pedestrian	7.7 / 8.1

Self-declared behaviour

Over the last 30 days, how often did you… (5-point scale from 1=never to 5=(almost) always)

DUI as a car driver

Drive after taking medication with warning that may influence driving ability
- 15.0%
- 16.7%

Drive 1 hour after using drugs (other than medication)
- 5.0%
- 12.9%

Drive after drinking alcohol
- 20.6%
- 25.9%

Drive when you may have been over legal limit for drink-driving
- 13.1%
- 14.5%

% at least once (2-5)

Distraction & fatigue as a car driver

Drive when you were so sleepy that had trouble keeping your eyes open
- 19.7%
- 22.0%

Read a text message/ email or check social media while driving
- 24.2%
- 26.0%

Talk on hands-free phone while driving
- 47.7%
- 43.6%

Talk on hand-held phone while driving
- 28.6%
- 21.3%

% at least once (2-5)

Speeding as a car driver

Drive faster than the speed limit on motorways/freeways
- 61.5%
- 78.6%

Drive faster than speed limit outside built-up areas (not motorways/freeways)
- 67.5%
- 75.1%

Drive faster than the speed limit inside built-up areas
- 56.3%
- 66.4%

% at least once (2-5)

Seat belt use in a passenger car

Travel without seatbelt in back seat
- 36.6%
- 25.3%

Non-use of seatbelts among children exempt* from using CRS
- 13.0%
- 15.4%

Non-use of CRS among children non-exempt* from using CRS
- 15.0%
- 19.7%

Drive without wearing seatbelt
- 17.2%
- 16.0%

% at least once (2-5)

specified based on national regulation on this topic

Self-declared behaviour

Over the last 30 days, how often did you… (5-point scale from 1=never to 5=(almost) always)

Powered Two Wheelers
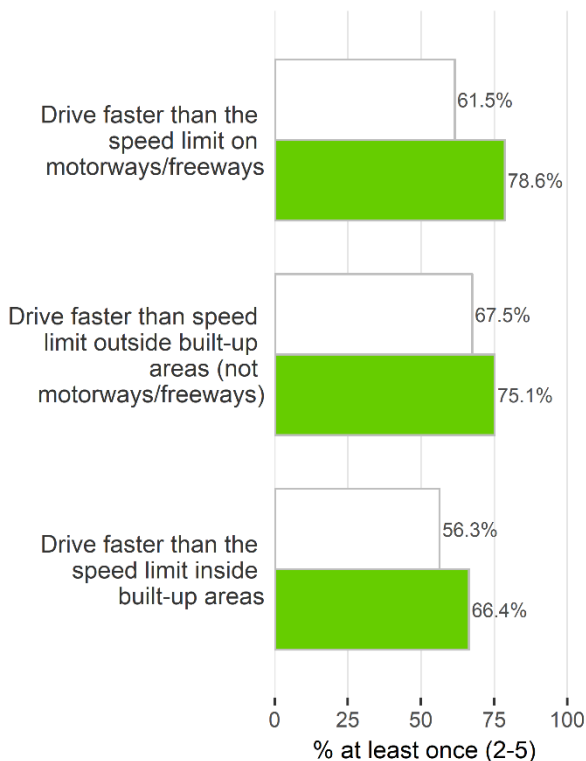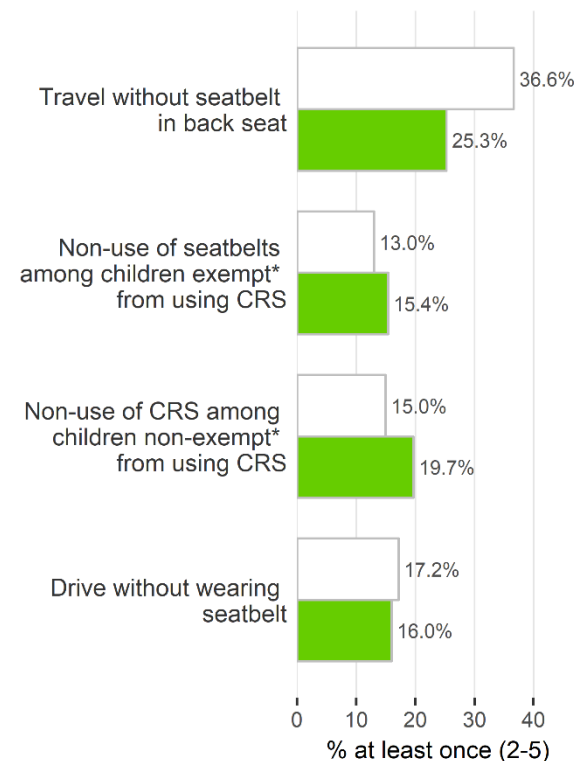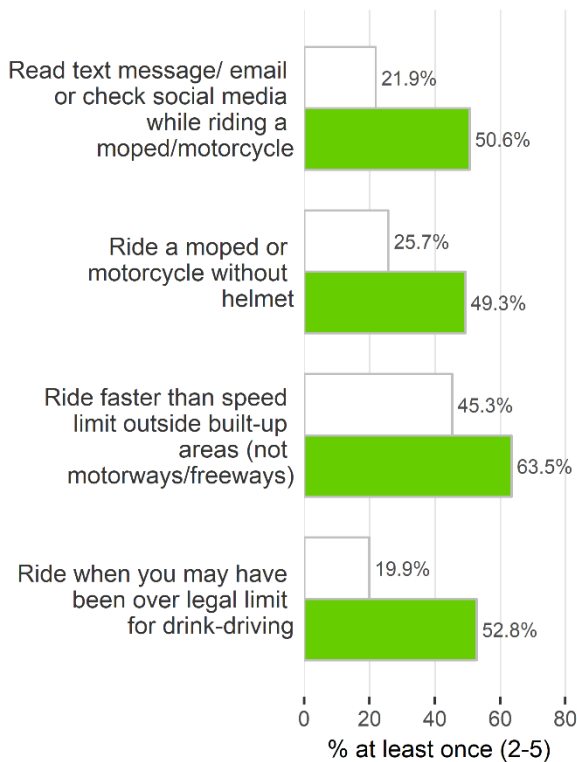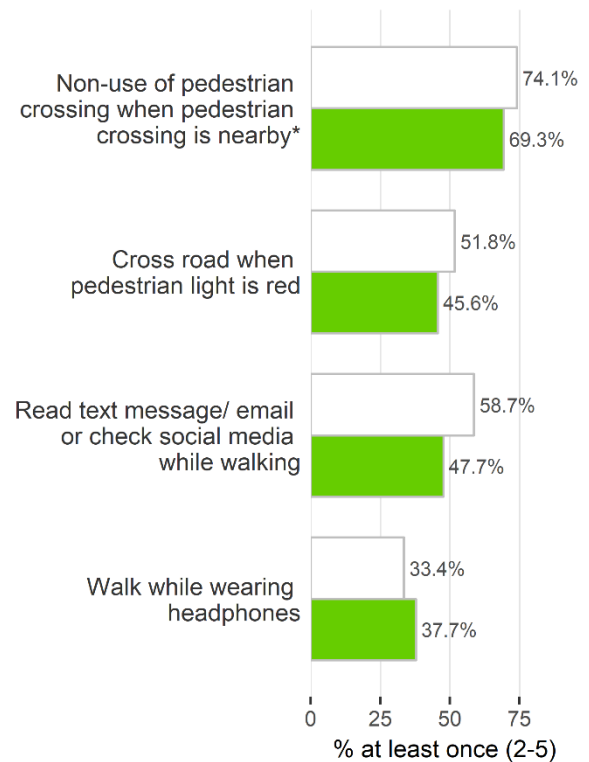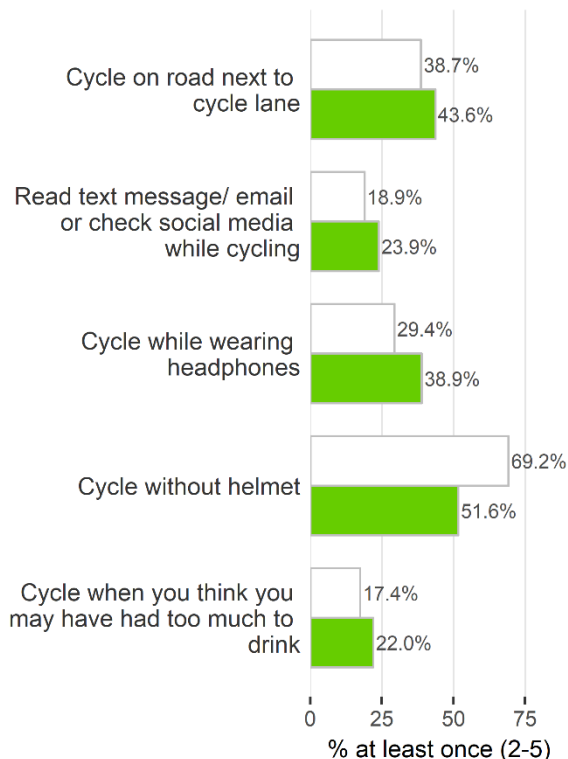
Read text message/ email or check social media while riding a moped/motorcycle: 21.9% / 50.6%

Ride a moped or motorcycle without helmet: 25.7% / 49.3%

Ride faster than speed limit outside built-up areas (not motorways/freeways): 45.3% / 63.5%

Ride when you may have been over legal limit for drink-driving: 19.9% / 52.8%

% at least once (2-5)

Pedestrians

Non-use of pedestrian crossing when pedestrian crossing is nearby*: 74.1% / 69.3%

Cross road when pedestrian light is red: 51.8% / 45.6%

Read text message/ email or check social media while walking: 58.7% / 47.7%

Walk while wearing headphones: 33.4% / 37.7%

% at least once (2-5)

Cyclists

Cycle on road next to cycle lane: 38.7% / 43.6%

Read text message/ email or check social media while cycling: 18.9% / 23.9%

Cycle while wearing headphones: 29.4% / 38.9%

Cycle without helmet: 69.2% / 51.6%

Cycle when you think you may have had too much to drink: 17.4% / 22.0%

% at least once (2-5)

specified based on national regulation on this topic

Sample size*

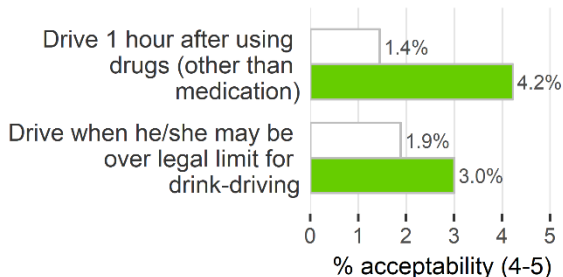*Road users who use each transport mode at least a few days per month.*

Mode of transportation	Canada	Europe20
Car drivers	758	15196
Car drivers who transported children (<18y) exempt from using CRS	265	5694
Car drivers who transported children (<18y) non-exempt from using CRS	267	6094
Car passengers	699	13597
Powered Two Wheelers	93	2611
Pedestrians	812	18466
Cyclists	278	8443

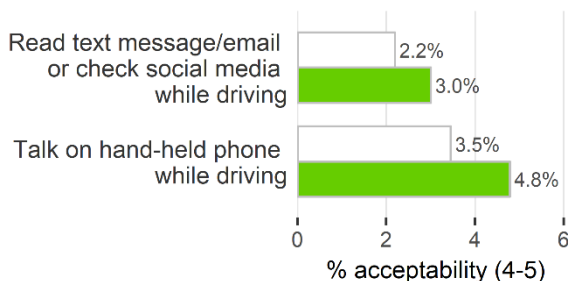*weighted sample for self-declared behaviours.*

Personal acceptability

How acceptable do you, personally, feel it is for a CAR DRIVER to … (5-point scale from 1=unacceptable to 5=acceptable)
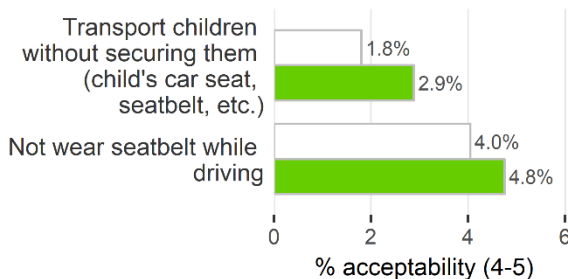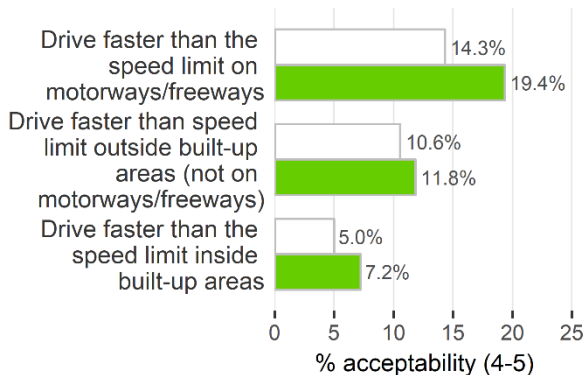
DUI

Drive 1 hour after using drugs (other than medication) — 1.4% / 4.2%

Drive when he/she may be over legal limit for drink-driving — 1.9% / 3.0%

% acceptability (4-5)

Distraction

Read text message/email or check social media while driving — 2.2% / 3.0%

Talk on hand-held phone while driving — 3.5% / 4.8%

% acceptability (4-5)

Seat belt

Transport children without securing them (child's car seat, seatbelt, etc.) — 1.8% / 2.9%

Not wear seatbelt while driving — 4.0% / 4.8%

% acceptability (4-5)

Speed

Drive faster than the speed limit on motorways/freeways — 14.3% / 19.4%

Drive faster than speed limit outside built-up areas (not on motorways/freeways) — 10.6% / 11.8%

Drive faster than the speed limit inside built-up areas — 5.0% / 7.2%

% acceptability (4-5)

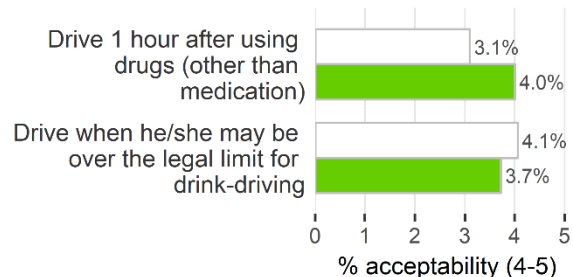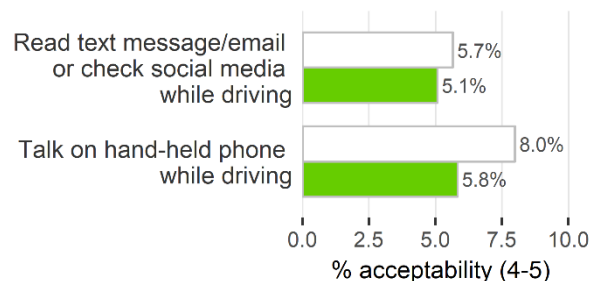## Others' acceptability

Where you live, how acceptable would most other people say it is for a CAR DRIVER to… (5-point scale from 1=unacceptable to 5=acceptable)
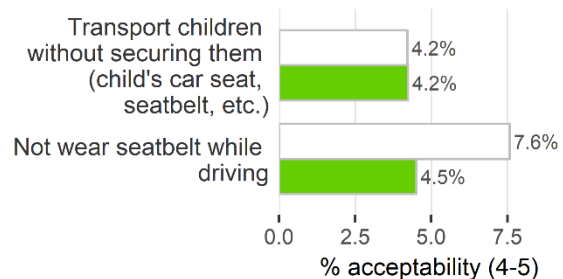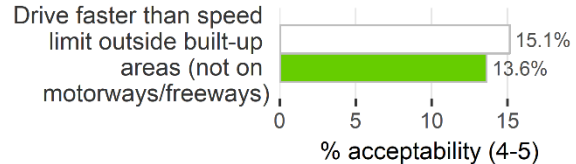
DUI

Drive 1 hour after using drugs (other than medication) — 3.1% / 4.0%

Drive when he/she may be over the legal limit for drink-driving — 4.1% / 3.7%

% acceptability (4-5)

Distraction

Read text message/email or check social media while driving — 5.7% / 5.1%

Talk on hand-held phone while driving — 8.0% / 5.8%

% acceptability (4-5)

Seat belt

Transport children without securing them (child's car seat, seatbelt, etc.) — 4.2% / 4.2%

Not wear seatbelt while driving — 7.6% / 4.5%

% acceptability (4-5)

Speed

Drive faster than speed limit outside built-up areas (not on motorways/freeways) — 15.1% / 13.6%
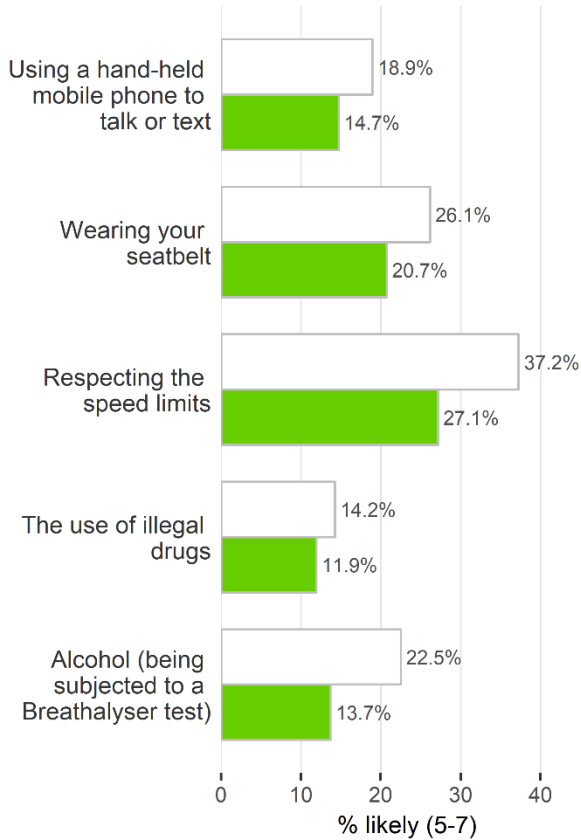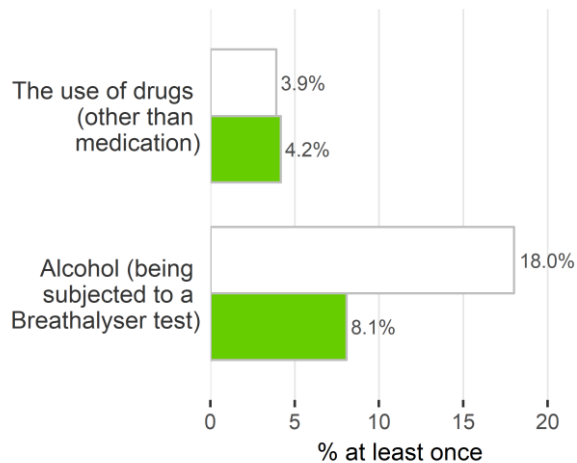
% acceptability (4-5)

Enforcement

On a typical journey, how likely is it that you (as CAR DRIVER) will be checked by police for… (7-point scale from 1=very unlikely to 7=very likely)
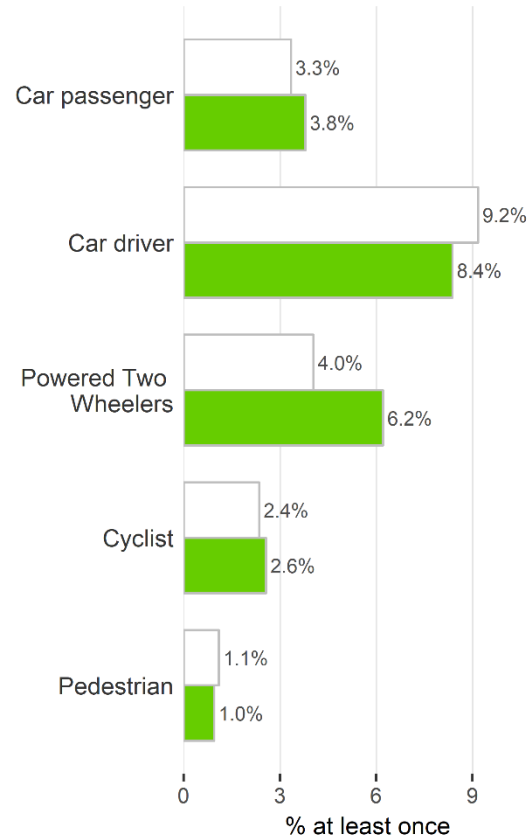
Category	White bar	Green bar
Using a hand-held mobile phone to talk or text	18.9%	14.7%
Wearing your seatbelt	26.1%	20.7%
Respecting the speed limits	37.2%	27.1%
The use of illegal drugs	14.2%	11.9%
Alcohol (being subjected to a Breathalyser test)	22.5%	13.7%

% likely (5-7)

In the past 12 months, how many times (as a CAR DRIVER) have you been checked by the police for… (number)

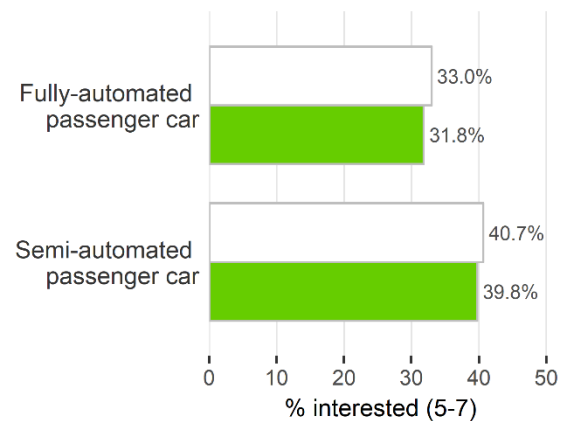| Category	White bar	Green bar
The use of drugs (other than medication)	3.9%	4.2%
Alcohol (being subjected to a Breathalyser test)	18.0%	8.1%

% at least once

Involvement in road crashes

In the past 12 months, how many times have you personally been involved in road crashes as… (number)

Category	White bar	Green bar
Car passenger	3.3%	3.8%
Car driver	9.2%	8.4%
Powered Two Wheelers	4.0%	6.2%
Cyclist	2.4%	2.6%
Pedestrian	1.1%	1.0%

% at least once

Vehicle automation

How interested would you be in using a… (7-point scale from 1=not at all interested to 7=very interested)

Category	White bar	Green bar
Fully-automated passenger car	33.0%	31.8%
Semi-automated passenger car	40.7%	39.8%

% interested (5-7)

Background Data

Basic data of Canada in relation to the European average[3].

Exposure

	year	CA
total length of roads (km)	2015	1304100
total length of motorways (km)	NA	NA
vehicle kilometres (total in millions)	2016	374740
motorisation rate (motor vehicles/1000 inhab.)	2016	670

Source: IRTAD

Persons killed in road accidents by age (IRTAD & CARE database)

ages	year	CA absolute number	%	EU absolute number	%
0-14	2016	65	3.4	616	2.4
15-17	2016	56	3.0	593	2.3
18-24	2016	267	14.1	3370	13.1
25-49	2016	654	34.5	8808	34.2
50-64	2016	398	18.5	5177	20.1
≥65	2016	446	21.0	7057	27.4
unknown	2016	12	0.6	144	0.6
TOTAL	2016	1898	100.0	25765	100.0

European sum computed with the most recent available year by country (2010: SK; 2015: LT, IE; others: 2016).

Persons killed in road accidents by transport mode (IRTAD & CARE database)

mode of transportation	year	CA absolute number	%	EU absolute number	%
car (including taxi)	2016	943	49.7	12034	46.7
moped	2016	4	0.2	677	2.6
motorcycle	2016	210	11.1	3606	14.0
pedal cycle	2016	44	2.3	2071	8.0
pedestrian	2016	338	17.8	5468	21.2
other	2016	359	18.9	1909	7.4
TOTAL	2016	1898	100.0	25765	100.0

European sum computed with the most recent available year by country (2010: SK; 2015: LT, IE; others: 2016)

Population

	year	CA	EU
population (M. inhab.)	2017	36.7	512.4
density (inhab./km^2)	2017	3.7	116.9[4]
males (% of total)	2017	49.6	49.0
females (% of total)	2017	50.4	51.0
urban (% of total)	2017	81.3	75.4
internet users (per 100 people)	2017	93	81

Source: World Bank

Traffic legislation in Canada

Speed limits for passenger cars	(km/h)
motorways	100-110
secondary or regional roads	80-90
in built-up areas	40-70

Drink-driving	BAC limits
max. BAC for drivers (g/l)	0.8
max. BAC for young/novice drivers (g/l)	0.0
max. BAC for professional drivers (g/l)	0.8

Protective systems	
obligation to use seatbelt in front seat	yes
obligation to use seatbelt in rear seat	yes
obligation to use child restraint systems for transport of children	yes
obligation to use a helmet as a moped rider	yes
obligation to use a helmet as a motorcyclist	yes

Source: IRTAD Annual Report 2018

[1] Please note that this country fact sheet has been written in British English. Exact wording of items and spelling was adapted according to the needs of the national language versions of the ESRA2 survey.

[2] The European ESRA2 mean is based on the results of the 20 European countries participating in the ESRA2 survey: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

[3] The European average is based on the EU-28: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

[4] Population density EU is based on the total population of the EU-28 (512 431 044 inhabitants; Source: World Bank) divided by the total surface of the EU-28 (4 384 317 km^2; Source: World Bank).

Please refer to this document as: Vias institute (2019). Country fact sheet Canada. ESRA2_2018 survey (E-Survey of Road users' Attitudes). Brussels, Belgium: Vias institute.